

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 231611 TOSEC 270330

NODIS

FOR EAGLEBURGER FROM AHERNE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: MISCELLANY

1. THE MOYNIHAN MESSAGE HAS GONE.
2. THE EDITORIAL WRITERS CONVENTION FORMAT WILL BE AS THE SECRETARY WISHES. ON THIS ITEM, YOU MIGHT WANT TO POINT OUT THAT WHILE THE FLIGHT TIME TO SAVANNAH OR BEAUFORT, S.C. (THE NEAREST AIRPORTS TO HILTON HEAD) IS ONLY AN HOUR AND 20 MINUTES, IT IS ABOUT AN HOUR'S DRIVE FROM EITHER AIRPORT TO THE RESORT. (15 MINUTES BY CHOPPER). THIS COULD MEAN A DOOR-TO-DOOR TRAVEL TIME OF ABOUT TWO HOURS AND 45 MINUTES. THUS IF THE SECRETARY WERE TO LEAVE HILTON HEAD AFTER DINNER, ARRIVAL IN WASHINGTON WOULD BE QUITE LATE. HILTON HEAD IS, I AM TOLD, A FAIRLY AGREEABLE RESORT AT THIS TIME OF THE YEAR, AND HE MIGHT WANT TO STAY OVER ON INTOSOME OR ALL OF SUNDAY. THE CALENDAR FOR MONDAY (YOM KIPPUR) IS, OF COURSE, ALSO CLEAR. ALL IN ALL, CONFIDENTIAL

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IT MIGHT BE AN ATTRACTIVE BREAK BETWEEN UN VISITS.

3. I AM SENDING YOU SEPARATELY THE TEXT OF A "CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR" PIECE REPORTING AN EXTENSIVE STATE-BY-STATE NATIONAL SURVEY ON THE CARTER-FORD PROSPECTS. IT IS A VERY THOROUGH-GOING APPROACH AND YOU MIGHT FIND IT A

USEFUL REFERENCE AS YOU ASSESS WHATEVER ADVICE YOU GET FROM THE WHITE HOUSE ABOUT PUBLIC SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS.

4. EITHER WHEN YOU RECEIVE THIS, OR SHORTLY THEREAFTER, YOU SHOULD HAVE BUSH'S REACTION TO THE SECRETARY'S MESSAGE ON THE "AVIATION WEEK" STORY. UNFORTUNATELY, COVERAGE OF HIS PUBLIC REMARKS ON THE SUBJECT WAS SPARSE AND HIS LETTER TO THE MAGAZINE--SHOULD THEY USE ANY OF IT--SHOULD HAVE MORE EFFECT.

5. BARBARA WALTERS CALLED TODAY WITH TWO REQUESTS:

----(A) THAT THE SECRETARY APPEAR ON "ISSUES AND ANSWERS" ON OCTOBER 17 WITH HER ALONE, OR HER AND A PANEL SHE SAID SHE HAD SPOKEN TO THE SECRETARY ABOUT AN APPEARANCE SOMETIME BEFORE THE ELECTION. WHAT ABC INTEND TO DO IS RUN SPECIAL ONE-HOUR PROGRAMS ON ELECTION ISSUES THROUGHOUT OCTOBER. THEY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE SECRETAR FOR 30 MINUTES OF ONE SUCH PROGRAM, WITH A CARTER SPOKES-MAN OCCUPYING THE OTHER 30 MINUTES. I REMINDED HER THAT SHE AND THE SECRETARY HAD TOUCHED ON THE QUESTION OF SIDE-BY-SIDE APPEARANCES WITH CARTER REPRESENTATIVES WHEN SHE WAS HERE TO TAPE THE LAST "TODAY" INTERVIEW A FEW MONTHS AGO, THAT HE HAD BEEN AGAINST THE IDEA AT THE TIME AND THAT MY PERSONAL JUDGMENT WAS THAT HE CONTINUED TO BE. I ALSO REMINDED HER THAT HE HAD NOT APPEARED ON ANY OF THE SUNDAY INTERVIEW SHOWS. BUT I SAID I WOULD PASS THE REQUEST ALONG.

----(B) WALTERS WILL BEGIN CO-ANCHORING THE ABC EVENING NEWS ON OCTOBER 4. SHE WOULD LIKE TO TAPE AN INTERVIEW OF 10 OR 15 MINUTES WHICH SHE WOULD THEN BREAK UP INTO TWO OR THREE CLIPS TO BE USED ON HER FIRST WEEK'S PROGRAMS. SHE SAID THIS WOULD BE A BIG HELP TO HER IN CONFIDENTIAL

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GETTING OFF ON THE RIGHT FOOT AND VERY MUCH HOPED THE SECRETARY WOULD AGREE.

I THINK THE "ISSUES AND ANSWERS" PROPOSITION IS A REAL LOSER--PARTICULARLY SINCE WALTERS MENTIONED BALL AND BRZEZINSKI AS THE TWO LIKELY POSSIBILITIES TO SPEAK FOR CARTER. LEAVING ASIDE THE FACT THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICUL TO CONTROL HOW THEY USED A 30-MINUTE TAPE OF THE SECRETAR

THE NET EFFECT WOULD BE EITHER TO DEMEAN THE SECRETARY'S POSITION, OR ELEVATE THAT OF BALL/BRZEZINSKI, OR A LITTLE BIT OF BOTH. WE HAVE OF COURSE, PURSUANT TO THE SECRETAR DECISION, TODAY TURNED DOWN ALL THREE SUNDAY TALK SHOWS--THOUGH I SUSPECT WALTERS DOES NOT KNOW THAT, AND WOULDN'T PAY MUCH ATTENTION TO IT IF SHE DID. AN ABC EVENING NEWS INTERVIEW WOULD BE LESS OF A PROBLEM, BUT WOULD LEAVE

THE RECENT INTERVIEW BOX SCORE AT ABC - 2, NBC - 1, AND CBS - 0.

6. I HAD OCCASION TO TALK TO SHRIVER (HE HAD CALLED ME TO ASK FOR SOME HELP ON A ROUTINE VISA MATTER). HE SAID HE HAD BEEN PUZZLED TO HEAR THE APPARENTLY HOSTILE AUDIENCE REACTION TO THE PRESIDENT'S REFERENCE TO AFRICA POLICY DURING THE ANN ARBOR SPEECH; HE HAD, HE SAID, ASSUMED THAT WE WERE FINDING FAIRLY WIDE SUPPORT, EXCEPT AMONG THE "REACTIONARIES." IN HIS CONTACTS ON THE HILL AND ELSEWHERE, SHRIVER SAID HE HAD NOT DETECTED MUCH OPPOSITION, EXCEPT AMONG DIGGS AND HIS FRIENDS. I MENTIONED BRIEFLY SOME OF THE POINTS THE SECRETARY HAS MADE IN RECENT LEADERSHIP MEETINGS ABOUT THE PUBLIC REACTION AFTER THE FIRST AFRICA TRIP; EVEN THOUGH SUPPORT ON THE HILL WAS FAIRLY BROAD, AS EVIDENCED BY THE SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH THE SENATORS LAST WEEK, THE SITUATION AMONG THE PUBLIC AT LARGE NEEDED WORK. FINALLY, I SAID I THOUGHT THE OPPOSITION OR LACK OF SUPPORT AMONG THE PUBLIC, PLUS THE SECRETARY'S OWN ESTIMATES OF THE CHANCES FOR SUCCESS, WERE PRETTY STRONG EVIDENCE THAT THE CURRENT MISSION WAS NOT A PARTISAN POLITICAL EFFORT. SHRIVER REJOINED WITH SOMETHING LIKE, "IF WHAT YOU SAY IS CORRECT, THE POLITICAL THING FOR HIM TO HAVE DONE WOULD HAVE BEEN TO STAY HOME." SHRIVER IS, OF COURSE, VERY SUPPORTIVE OF CONFIDENTIAL

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THE AFRICAN POLICY HIMSELF, AND I EXPECT HE WILL TRY TO BE HELPFUL. WHETHER THAT WILL STICK IF CARTER MAKES AFRICA POLICY INTO A CAMPAIGN ISSUE, I DON'T KNOW--ALTHOUGH THERE IS CLEARLY NO LOVE LOST BETWEEN CARTER AND SHRIVER.

7. YOU MIGHT BE ENTERTAINED TO KNOW THAT THE FOUR NETWORKS HAVE FORMALLY REFUSED TO COVER THE CARTER-FORD DEBATES. THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS HAS SAID THAT TELEVISION COVERAGE CANNOT UNDER THE RULES SHOW AUDIENCE REACTION, BUT THE NETWORKS WON'T PLAY UNLESS THEY CAN DO SO. THE LEAGUE RIPOSTES THAT THE AUDIENCE WILL BE INSTRUCTED NOT TO SHOW ANY REACTION ANYWAY. MEANWHILE MADDOX AND MCCARTHY KEEP FIGHTING THE ISSUE. EVERYONE IS BETTING THAT IT WILL BE WORKED OUT EVENTUALLY, BUT THE

WHOLE AFFAIR IS ACQUIRING A PERILS OF PAULINE CHARACTER.

8. UNHAPPILY OUR TECHNOLOGY DOES NOT PERMIT TRANSMISSION OF PHOTOGRAPHS VIA THIS CHANNEL, SO WORDS WILL HAVE TO SUFFICE TO DESCRIBE THE LARGE PICTURE ON THE FRONT PAGE OF THE "STAR" AND ON PAGE 3 OF THE "POST" TODAY OF THE VICE PRESIDENT, WITH GLEEFUL ENTHUSIASM, ELEVATING HIS MIDDLE FINGER IN THE TIME-HONORED GESTURE BEFORE A GROUP OF HECKLERS AT BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK. ROBINSON

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